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27 May 1953

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MEMORANDUM FOR: [REDACTED] Assistant to DCI

SUBJECT : Items for Discussion, PSB Informal Meeting, 28 May 1953

1. Item 1, Psychological Plan for Southeast Asia: It is my understanding that DCI wishes an oral briefing from Mr. Desmond Fitzgerald on this item at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, 28 May, and I have so informed Mr. Fitzgerald.

2. Item 2, Free World Congress: It is my understanding that you will receive a copy of Mr. Jackson's memorandum from Charles Johnson of the PSB.

→ 3. Item 3, The Future of RIAS: This is a general discussion item as to the future of RIAS in the light of State Department budget cuts and the possible recommendation of the Jackson Committee that activities of this type be placed under the aegis of the Ambassador in each country. I asked [REDACTED] of the EE Division, for his opinion of RIAS, and he informed me that it has an important influence and is highly regarded in the Soviet Zone.

4. Item 4, Desirability of changing PSB meeting day: No comment.

5. Item 5, Other Business:

→ a. Under other business it is expected that C. D. Jackson will bring up:

(1) An inquiry as to the preparations being made by any of the member agencies for the Bermuda Conference.

(2) The possibility of asking Arthur Goodfriend to make a presentation of his ideas to the Board one week from this Thursday.

(3) The possibility that the Air Force engage in "dusting operations" against the locusts in Pakistan.

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→ b. It is possible that the State Department will bring up the subject of the 1954 Escapee Budget with the idea that Yugoslav escapees be specifically included in the budget. Mr. William Godel and General Frank Roberts, on behalf of Defense and MSA, emphatically stated at the PSB staff meeting today that it was never intended to mention the Yugoslavs in the budget. An attached memorandum from [redacted] outlines the CIA staff view along the lines of the Defense Department and MSA.

→ c. It is also possible that General Smith will comment on the present problem of the morale of Communist POWs in Korea (belief in the possibility of forcible repatriation) and the questions arising out of Sygman Rhee's present stand.

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Attached:

- 1-Agenda for PSB Meeting
- 2-Memo re Escapees

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